



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
HEARTLAND REGION – ILLINOIS FIELD OFFICE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## USDA to Survey County Small Grains Acreage

Springfield, Illinois –The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey producers in 32 states, including Illinois, for its 2021 Small Grains County Agricultural Production Survey (CAPS).

The survey will collect information on total acres planted and harvested, and yield and production of small grains crops down to the county level. CAPS will provide the data needed to estimate acreage and production of selected crops such as barley, oats, and wheat in the United States.

"The data provided will help federal and state programs support the farmer," said Mark Schleusener, Illinois State Statistician. "I hope every producer understands the importance of these data and will take the time to respond, if they receive this survey. Producers can lose out when there are no data to determine accurate rates for loans, disaster payments, crop insurance price elections and more. When enough producers do not respond to surveys, NASS is not able to publish data. Without data, agencies such as USDA's Risk Management Agency or Farm Service Agency do not have information on which to base the programs that serve those same producers."

Farmers are encouraged to respond online at [agcounts.usda.gov](https://agcounts.usda.gov) or by mail. Alternatively, within the next few weeks, NASS representatives will contact selected Illinois growers to arrange telephone interviews to complete the survey.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified, as required by federal law.

Survey results will be published in the NASS Quick Stats database ([quickstats.nass.usda.gov](https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov)) at 3 p.m. ET on Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021. For more information, contact the NASS Heartland Regional Field Office at (800) 551-1014 or [nassrfohlr@usda.gov](mailto:nassrfohlr@usda.gov).

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*NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture*

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